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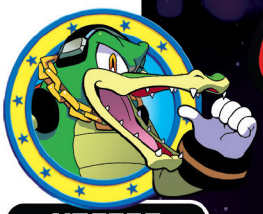
SONIC UNIVERSE™
CASE OF THE PIRATE PRINCESS #2 OF 4
SONIC UNIVERSE | 92
DANGERS OF THE DEEP
Tracy Yardley
Jim Amash
Hunzeker

Welcome to the Sonic Comic Universe—a world unique & beyond what you know from the SEGA games!
Where the Chaotix Detective Agency is on the case for a missing princess!

CHARACTER SELECT

SONIC UNIVERSE™



VECTOR
THE CROCODILE
THE MUSCLE & KARMA COLLECTOR

ESPIO
THE CHAMELEON
CLEARLY READY TO GO

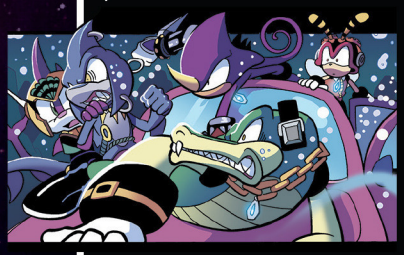
CHARMY BEE
DISHING OUT FIRST STING

RAZOR & ECHO
SHRINE PROTECTOR & MEROPIS CITY GUARD

THE STORY SO FAR...

THE CHAOTIX HAVE BEEN CAPTURED!

They're the best and the brightest detectives you can ask for! At least... that's what their business card says. Or used to say. Vector hasn't had the cash to print new ones since... ever?



The Chaotix Detective Agency thought all their financial woes were over when they were hired to find the missing Princess Undina of Meropis! They followed the clues, asked the hard questions, and rode in an underwater car!

Along the way they ran into the rough-and-tumble Razor. What was he doing there? What was his tie to the princess and the pirates that kidnapped her? **Before the Chaotix could get their answers, they were all captured by the very pirates they sought...**

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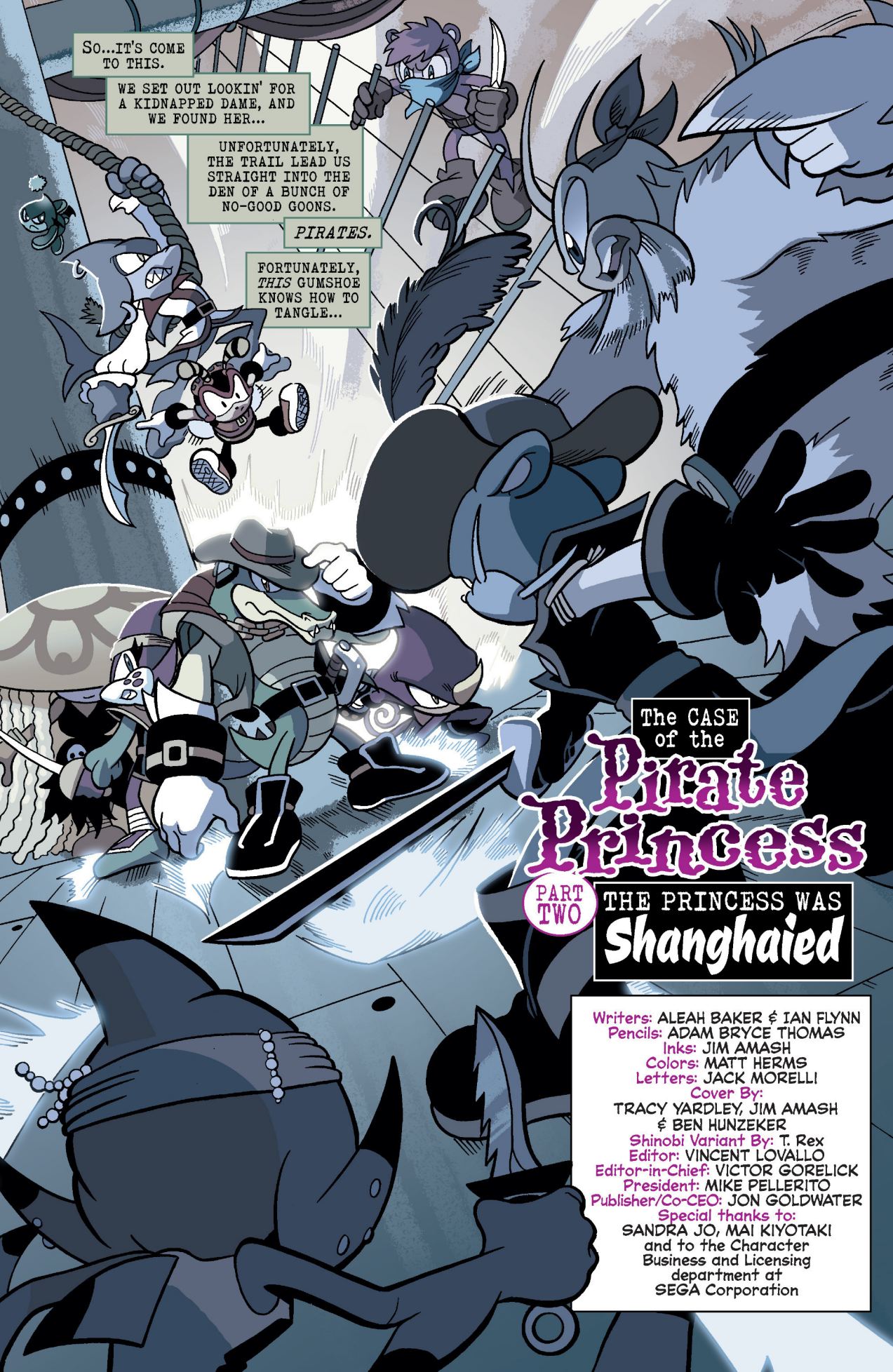
So...it's come to this.
We set out lookin' for a kidnapped dame, and we found her...
Unfortunately, the trail lead us straight into the den of a bunch of no-good goons.
Pirates.
Fortunately, *this* gumshoe knows how to tangle...
The CASE of the
Pirate Princess
PART TWO
THE PRINCESS WAS
Shanghaied

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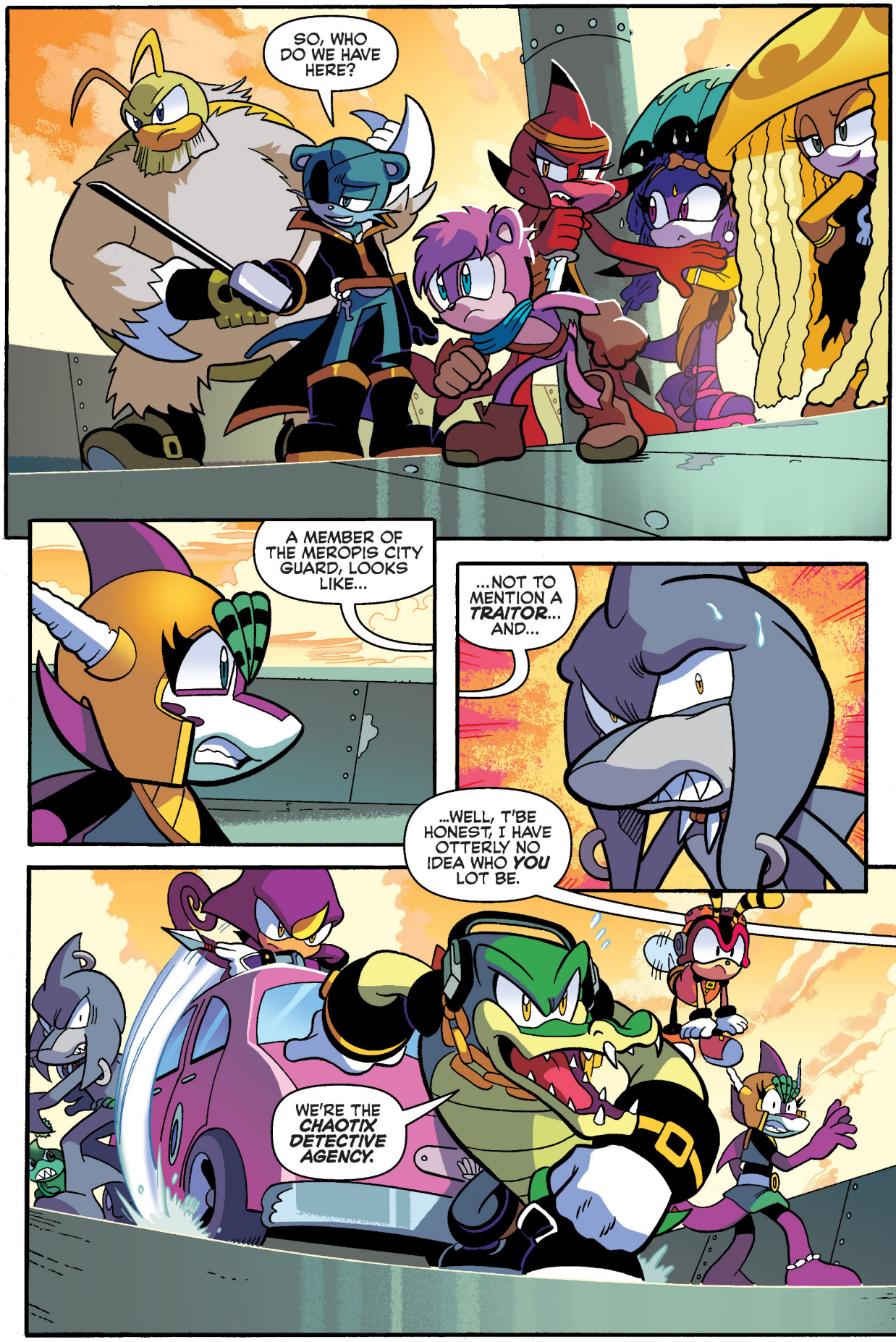

SO, WHO DO WE HAVE HERE?
A MEMBER OF THE MEROPIS CITY GUARD, LOOKS LIKE...
...NOT TO MENTION A TRAITOR... AND...
...WELL, T'BE HONEST, I HAVE OTTERLY NO IDEA WHO YOU LOT BE.
WE'RE THE CHAOTIX DETECTIVE AGENCY.

YEEP!
AND WE'VE GOT A JOB TO DO!
GAAAH!
WHOA! NOT COOL!
ALL OF YOU, STAND DOWN! I--
...PRINCESS UNDINA...?

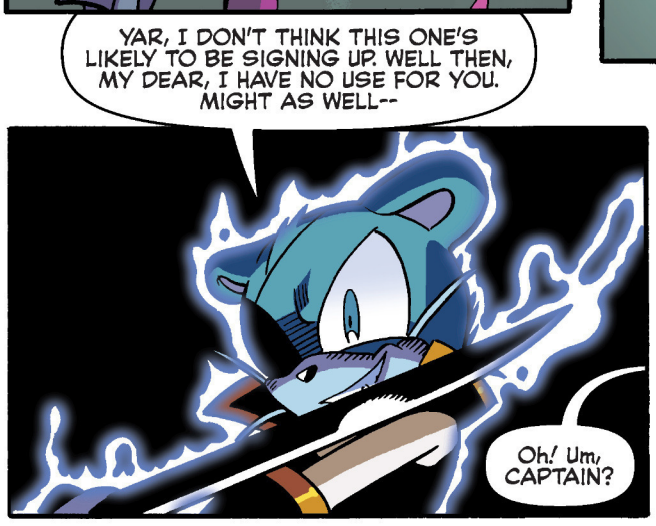
NOBODY MOVE! LIEUTENANT, DROP YOUR WEAPON.
YOU--!
KID, WHAT'RE YOU DOING?!
CAPTAIN SHELLBREAKER! I...I WANT TO REJOIN THE CREW! I REALIZE I MADE A MISTAKE BEFORE... EVERYONE IN MEROPIS TREATS ME LIKE SCUM ANYWAY.
...THE PRIESTESS TRUSTED YOU, YOU...!
SO WHEN I FOUND OUT THIS GROUP WAS ON ITS WAY HERE, I PLANNED TO INTERCEPT THEM. TO, Uh... TO MAKE AMENDS!
...WHAT? THAT'S NOT...
HOPEFULLY THESE THREE ARE SMART ENOUGH TO SURRENDER.

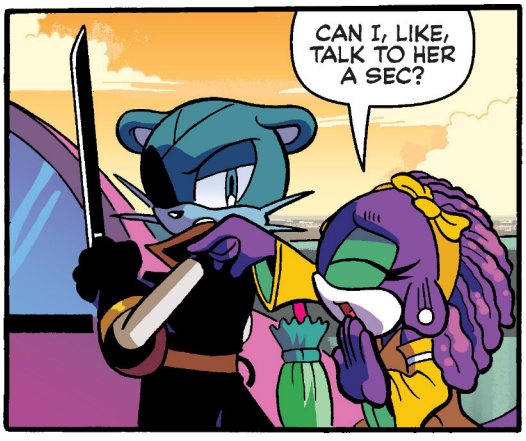
ACTUALLY--NOT ONLY DO WE SURRENDER, BUT HOW'S ABOUT YOU LET THE THREE OF US JOIN YOUR CREW TOO?
...BEGGIN' YER PARDON?
WAIT, WHAT?
WELL, LET'S BE PRACTICAL HERE. WE BARELY MAKE ENDS MEET AS DETECTIVES AND, WELL, IT'S NOT LOOKING TOO LIKELY THAT THIS JOB IS GOING TO PAY OUT EITHER... WHAT WITH OUR CLIENT BEING TAKEN PRISONER AND ALL.
I AM NOT BECOMING SOME HONORLESS THIEF!
SO...INSTEAD OF FIGHTING PIRATES, WE'RE GONNA BE PIRATES?
YOU ARE IF I SAY YOU ARE.
I'M THE BOSS, REMEMBER? AND I KNOW WHAT I'M DOING.
...Ah. WELL THEN. I WILL PUT MY TRUST IN YOU.
OH! CAN I GET A COOL HAT?!

YOU BE WILLIN' TO JOIN ME CREW? JUST LIKE THAT?
HEY, I'M SURE YOU CAN UNDERSTAND THE APPEAL WHEN YOU'RE AN OPPORTUNIST, RIGHT?
...Uh, DID THAT SOUND INSULTING?
ONLY IF IT WEREN'T TRUE.
CAP'N, WE ARE A LITTLE LIGHT ON CREW...WHAT WITH ABYSS AND THE OTHERS TAKIN' OFF LIKE THEY DID.
SPEAK NOT THAT WENCH'S NAME.
JUST SAYIN'...
YAR, 'TIS TRUE.
AND AS TO RAZOR... THE LAD'S YOUNG, A MOMENTARY LAPSE OF JUDGMENT--
ABYSS IS YOUNG, TOO, AND I'LL NOT FORGIVE HER POOR JUDGMENT.
I THOUGHT WE WEREN'T TO SPEAK OF HER?
≷GRUMBLE≷
FINE, THEN. RAZOR AND YOU... NEUROTIC DETECTIVES OR WHATE'ER 'TWAS. WELCOME ABOARD.
BUT DON'T BE THINKIN' I WON'T HAVE ME EYE ON YOU. I'VE LITTLE PATIENCE FOR TREACHERY NOWADAYS AND ALL MANNER O' CREATIVE WAYS TO DEAL WITH SUCH.

AND SPEAKIN' OF WHICH...

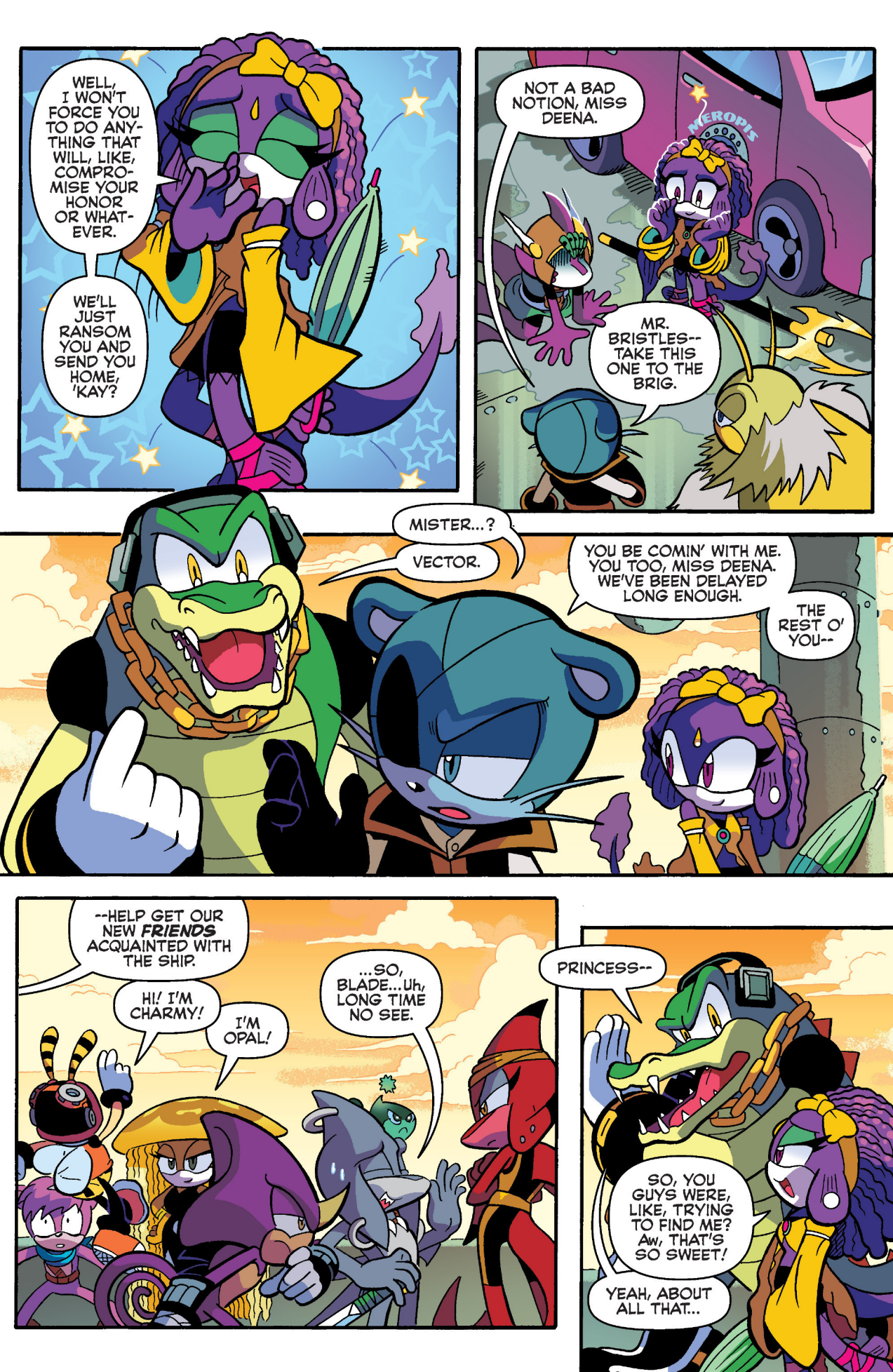
...HOW COULD YOU...HOW COULD YOU ALL BETRAY ME LIKE THIS...?
I CAME TO YOU FOR HELP AND... ALL OF YOU...ALL OF YOU...!


YAR, I DON'T THINK THIS ONE'S LIKELY TO BE SIGNING UP. WELL THEN, MY DEAR, I HAVE NO USE FOR YOU. MIGHT AS WELL--
Oh! Um, CAPTAIN?

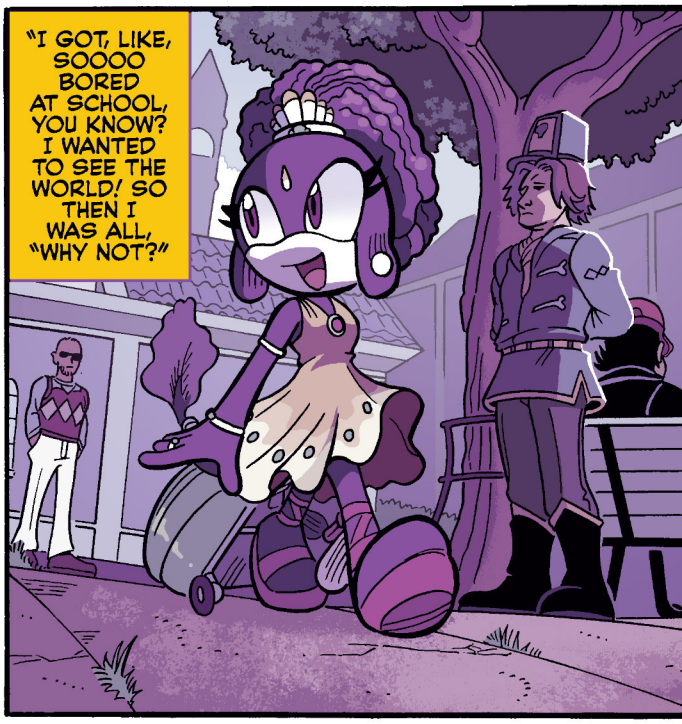

CAN I, LIKE, TALK TO HER A SEC?

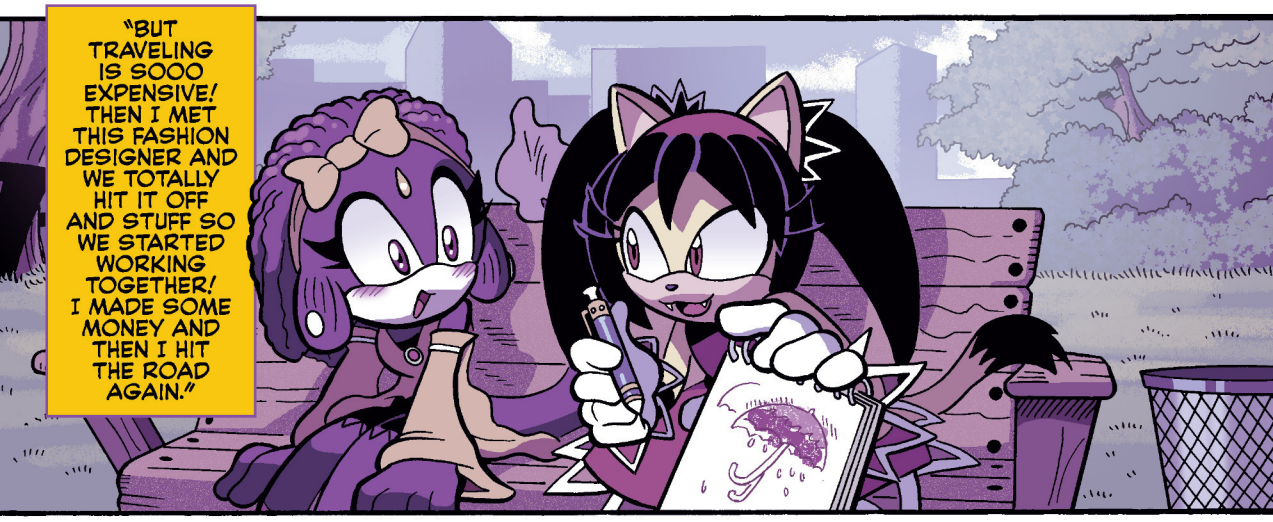
P-PRINCESS UNDINA...
HEYA, LIEUTENANT. LISTEN. IF I, LIKE, ORDERED YOU TO JOIN...WOULD YOU DO IT?

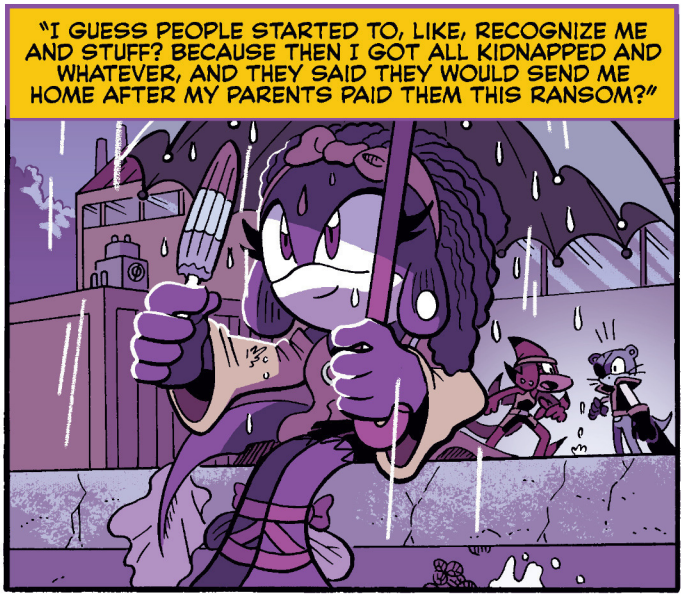
I-IF MY PRINCESS DEMANDS IT... I WOULD...BE OBLIGATED TO OBEY...
Aw...


WELL, I WON'T FORCE YOU TO DO ANY-THING THAT WILL, LIKE, COMPRO-MISE YOUR HONOR OR WHAT-EVER.
WE'LL JUST RANSOM YOU AND SEND YOU HOME, 'KAY?
NOT A BAD NOTION, MISS DEENA.
MR. BRISTLES-- TAKE THIS ONE TO THE BRIG.
MISTER...?
VECTOR.
YOU BE COMIN' WITH ME. YOU TOO, MISS DEENA. WE'VE BEEN DELAYED LONG ENOUGH.
THE REST O' YOU--
--HELP GET OUR NEW FRIENDS ACQUAINTED WITH THE SHIP.
HI! I'M CHARMY!
I'M OPAL!
...SO, BLADE... Uh, LONG TIME NO SEE.
PRINCESS--
SO, YOU GUYS WERE, LIKE, TRYING TO FIND ME? Aw, THAT'S SO SWEET!
YEAH, ABOUT ALL THAT...

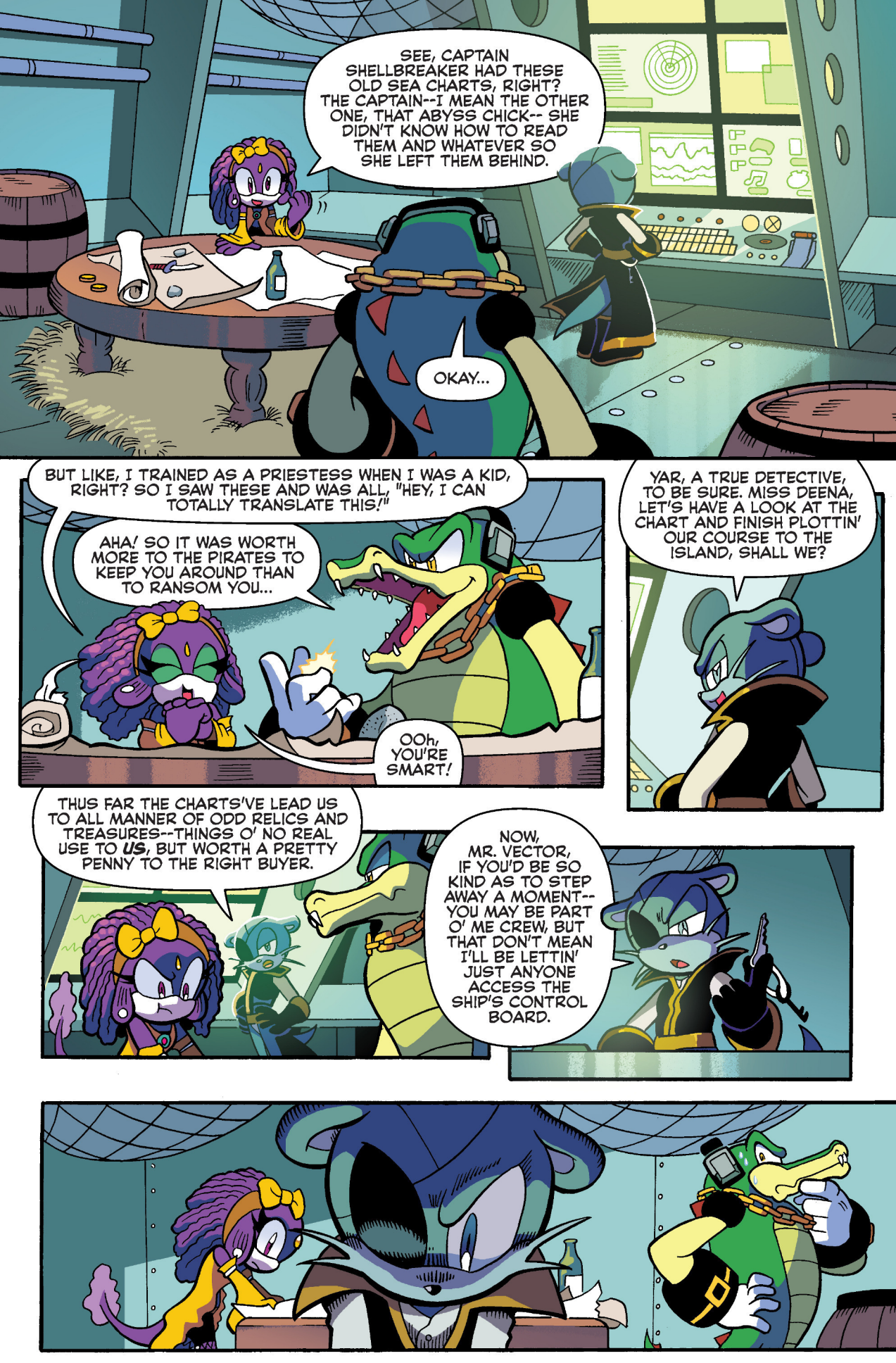
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE? YOU *WERE* KIDNAPPED, WEREN'T YOU?
Oh, TOTALLY!

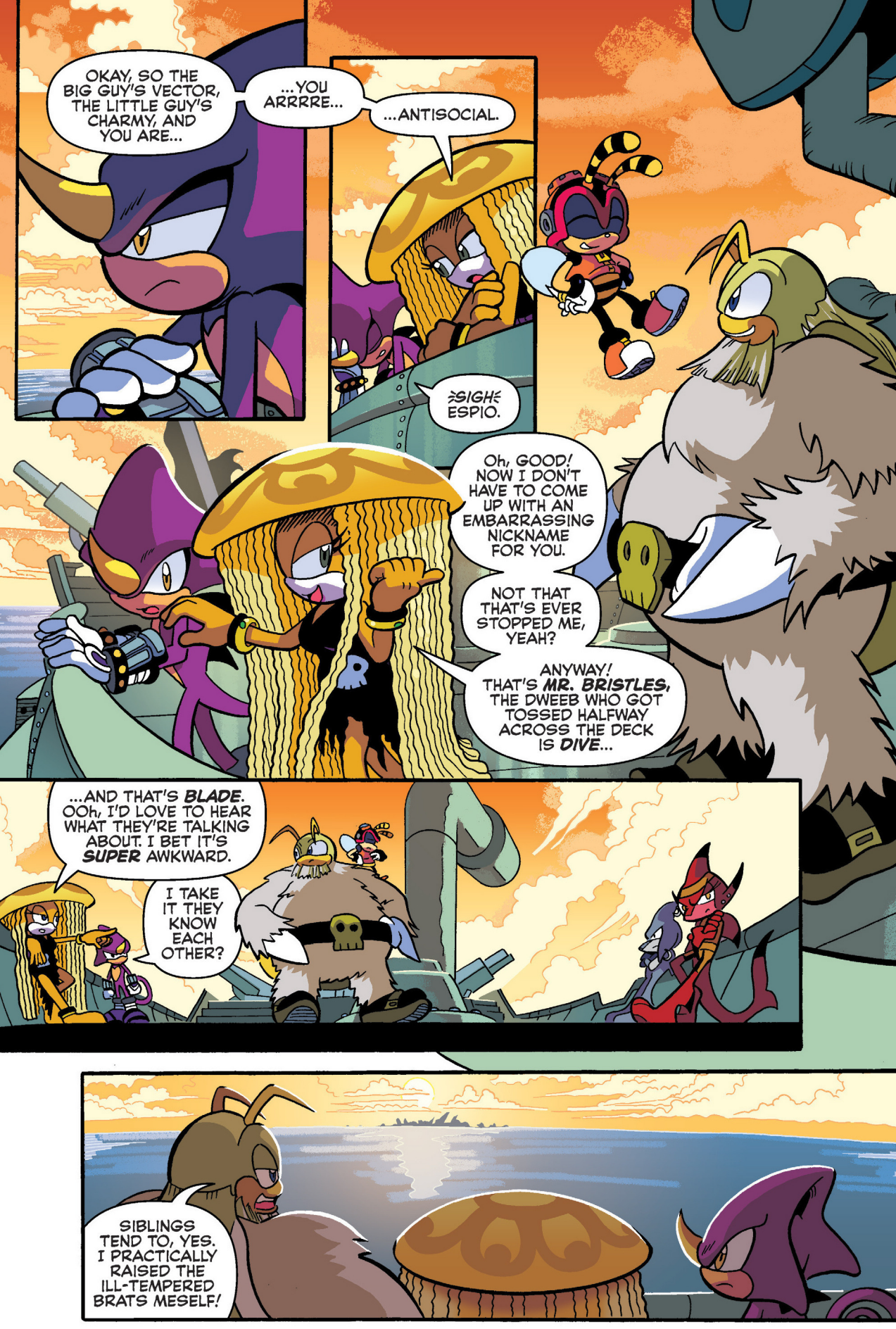

"I GOT, LIKE, SOOOO BORED AT SCHOOL, YOU KNOW? I WANTED TO SEE THE WORLD! SO THEN I WAS ALL, "WHY NOT?"

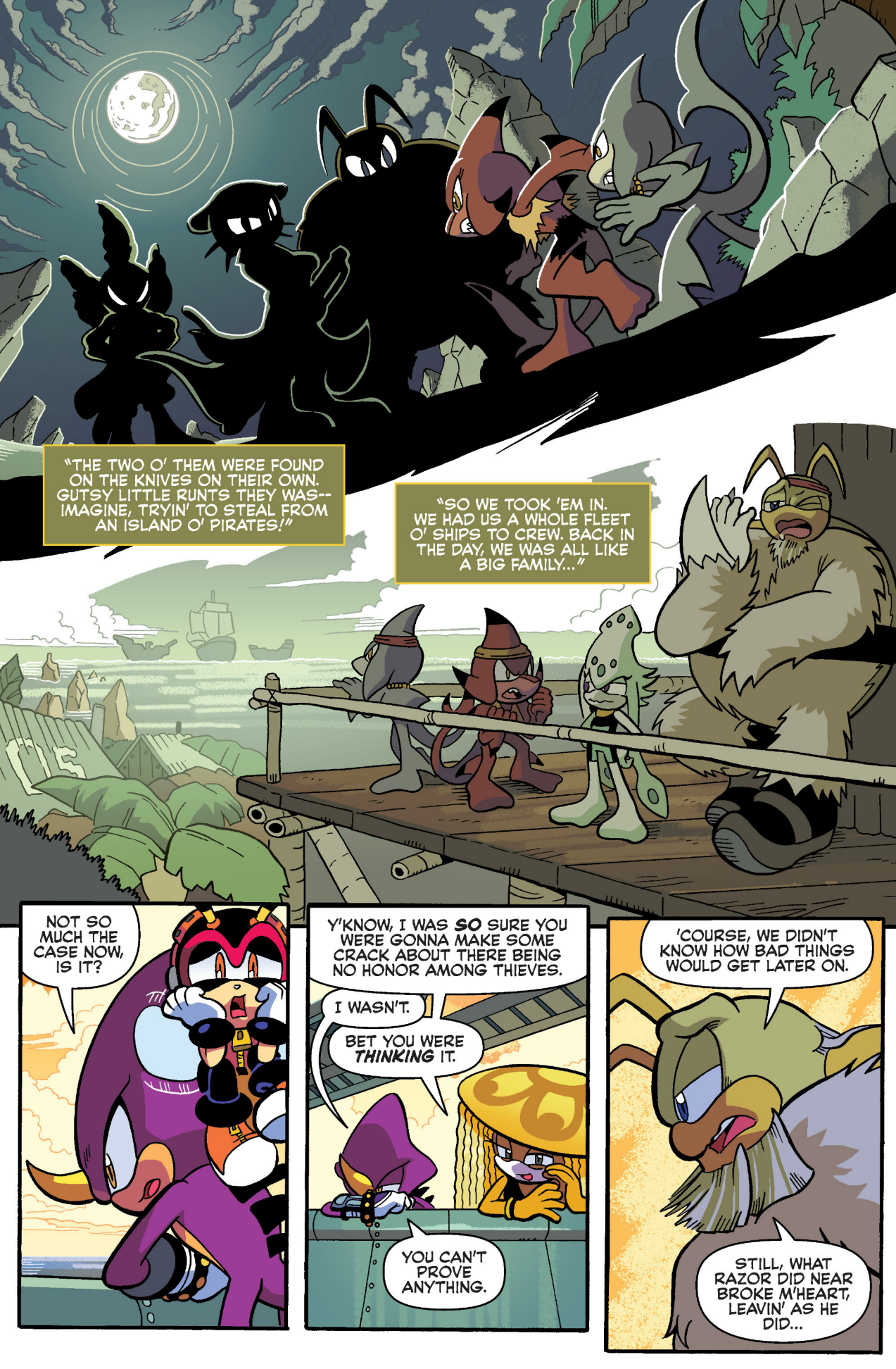

"BUT TRAVELING IS SOOO EXPENSIVE! THEN I MET THIS FASHION DESIGNER AND WE TOTALLY HIT IT OFF AND STUFF SO WE STARTED WORKING TOGETHER! I MADE SOME MONEY AND THEN I HIT THE ROAD AGAIN."

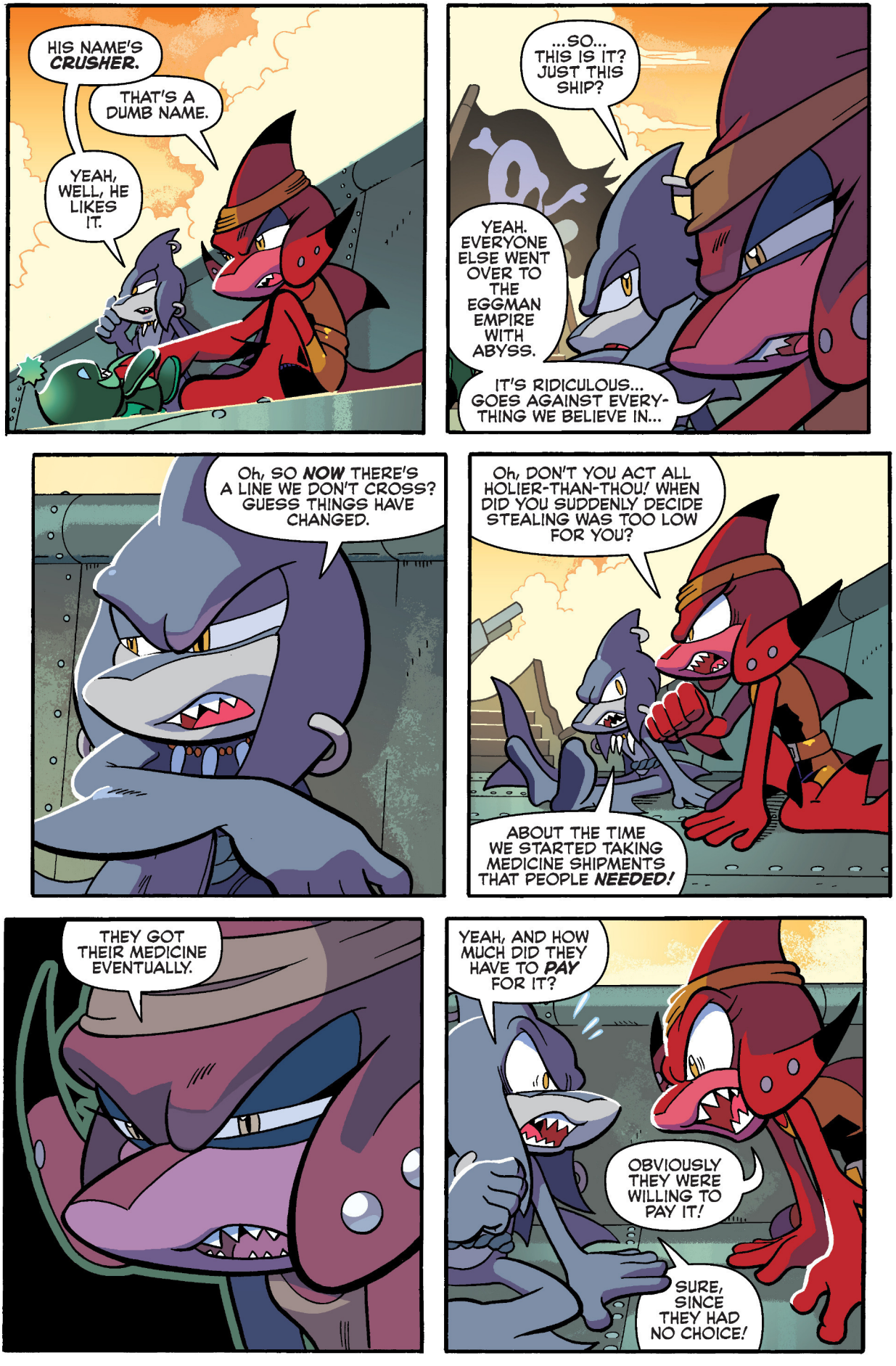

"I GUESS PEOPLE STARTED TO, LIKE, RECOGNIZE ME AND STUFF? BECAUSE THEN I GOT ALL KIDNAPPED AND WHATEVER, AND THEY SAID THEY WOULD SEND ME HOME AFTER MY PARENTS PAID THEM THIS RANSOM?"

RIGHT... EXCEPT YOU'RE STILL *HERE*.
I KNOW, RIGHT?! ISN'T THAT FUNNY?


SEE, CAPTAIN SHELLBREAKER HAD THESE OLD SEA CHARTS, RIGHT? THE CAPTAIN--I MEAN THE OTHER ONE, THAT ABYSS CHICK-- SHE DIDN'T KNOW HOW TO READ THEM AND WHATEVER SO SHE LEFT THEM BEHIND.
OKAY...
BUT LIKE, I TRAINED AS A PRIESTESS WHEN I WAS A KID, RIGHT? SO I SAW THESE AND WAS ALL, "HEY, I CAN TOTALLY TRANSLATE THIS!"
AHA! SO IT WAS WORTH MORE TO THE PIRATES TO KEEP YOU AROUND THAN TO RANSOM YOU...
OOh, YOU'RE SMART!
YAR, A TRUE DETECTIVE, TO BE SURE. MISS DEENA, LET'S HAVE A LOOK AT THE CHART AND FINISH PLOTTIN' OUR COURSE TO THE ISLAND, SHALL WE?
THUS FAR THE CHARTS'VE LEAD US TO ALL MANNER OF ODD RELICS AND TREASURES--THINGS O' NO REAL USE TO US, BUT WORTH A PRETTY PENNY TO THE RIGHT BUYER.
NOW, MR. VECTOR, IF YOU'D BE SO KIND AS TO STEP AWAY A MOMENT-- YOU MAY BE PART O' ME CREW, BUT THAT DON'T MEAN I'LL BE LETTIN' JUST ANYONE ACCESS THE SHIP'S CONTROL BOARD.

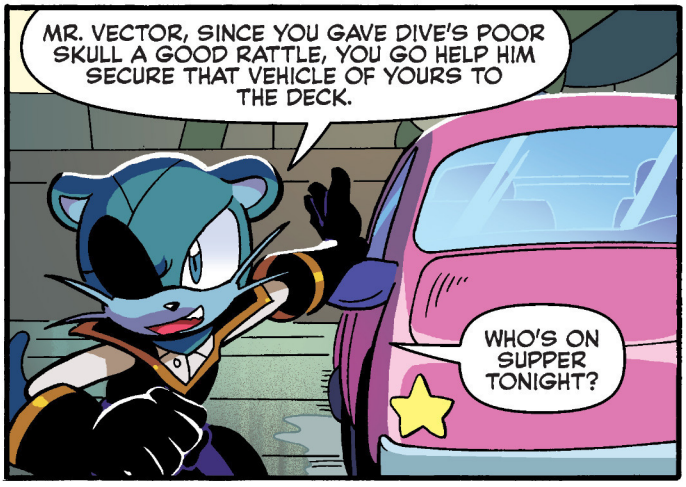

OKAY, SO THE BIG GUY'S VECTOR, THE LITTLE GUY'S CHARMY, AND YOU ARE...
...YOU ARRRRE...
...ANTISOCIAL.
≈SIGH≈ ESPIO.
Oh, GOOD! NOW I DON'T HAVE TO COME UP WITH AN EMBARRASSING NICKNAME FOR YOU.
NOT THAT THAT'S EVER STOPPED ME, YEAH?
ANYWAY! THAT'S MR. BRISTLES, THE DWEEB WHO GOT TOSSED HALFWAY ACROSS THE DECK IS DIVE...
...AND THAT'S BLADE. OOh, I'D LOVE TO HEAR WHAT THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT. I BET IT'S SUPER AWKWARD.
I TAKE IT THEY KNOW EACH OTHER?
SIBLINGS TEND TO, YES. I PRACTICALLY RAISED THE ILL-TEMPERED BRATS MESELF!

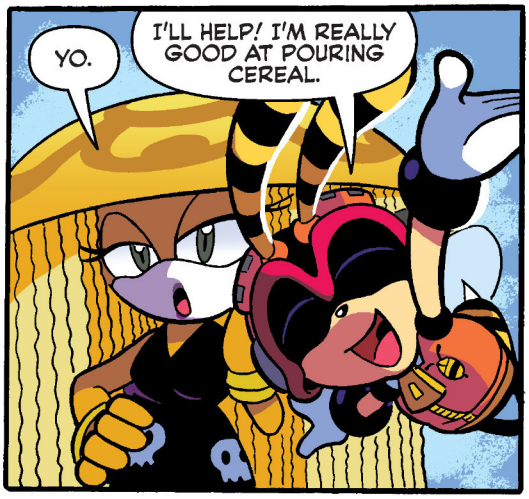

"THE TWO O' THEM WERE FOUND ON THE KNIVES ON THEIR OWN. GUTSY LITTLE RUNTS THEY WAS-- IMAGINE, TRYIN' TO STEAL FROM AN ISLAND O' PIRATES!"
"SO WE TOOK 'EM IN. WE HAD US A WHOLE FLEET O' SHIPS TO CREW. BACK IN THE DAY, WE WAS ALL LIKE A BIG FAMILY..."
NOT SO MUCH THE CASE NOW, IS IT?
Y'KNOW, I WAS SO SURE YOU WERE GONNA MAKE SOME CRACK ABOUT THERE BEING NO HONOR AMONG THIEVES.
I WASN'T.
BET YOU WERE THINKING IT.
YOU CAN'T PROVE ANYTHING.
'COURSE, WE DIDN'T KNOW HOW BAD THINGS WOULD GET LATER ON.
STILL, WHAT RAZOR DID NEAR BROKE M'HEART, LEAVIN' AS HE DID...


HIS NAME'S CRUSHER.
THAT'S A DUMB NAME.
YEAH, WELL, HE LIKES IT.
...SO... THIS IS IT? JUST THIS SHIP?
YEAH. EVERYONE ELSE WENT OVER TO THE EGGMAN EMPIRE WITH ABYSS.
IT'S RIDICULOUS... GOES AGAINST EVERY-THING WE BELIEVE IN...
Oh, SO NOW THERE'S A LINE WE DON'T CROSS? GUESS THINGS HAVE CHANGED.
Oh, DON'T YOU ACT ALL HOLIER-THAN-THOU! WHEN DID YOU SUDDENLY DECIDE STEALING WAS TOO LOW FOR YOU?
ABOUT THE TIME WE STARTED TAKING MEDICINE SHIPMENTS THAT PEOPLE NEEDED!
THEY GOT THEIR MEDICINE EVENTUALLY.
YEAH, AND HOW MUCH DID THEY HAVE TO PAY FOR IT?
OBVIOUSLY THEY WERE WILLING TO PAY IT!
SURE, SINCE THEY HAD NO CHOICE!

YOU REALLY HURT ME, YOU KNOW.
I...KNOW. I DIDN'T MEAN TO.
I'M GLAD YOU CAME BACK, THOUGH. I KNOW IT MUST'VE BEEN TOUGH FOR YOU OUT THERE, BUT YOU UNDERSTAND NOW, RIGHT?
PEOPLE LIKE US DON'T BELONG ANYWHERE ELSE. ALL WE HAVE IS EACH OTHER. ESPECIALLY NOW.
WELL, I KNOW WHERE MY LOYALTIES LIE.

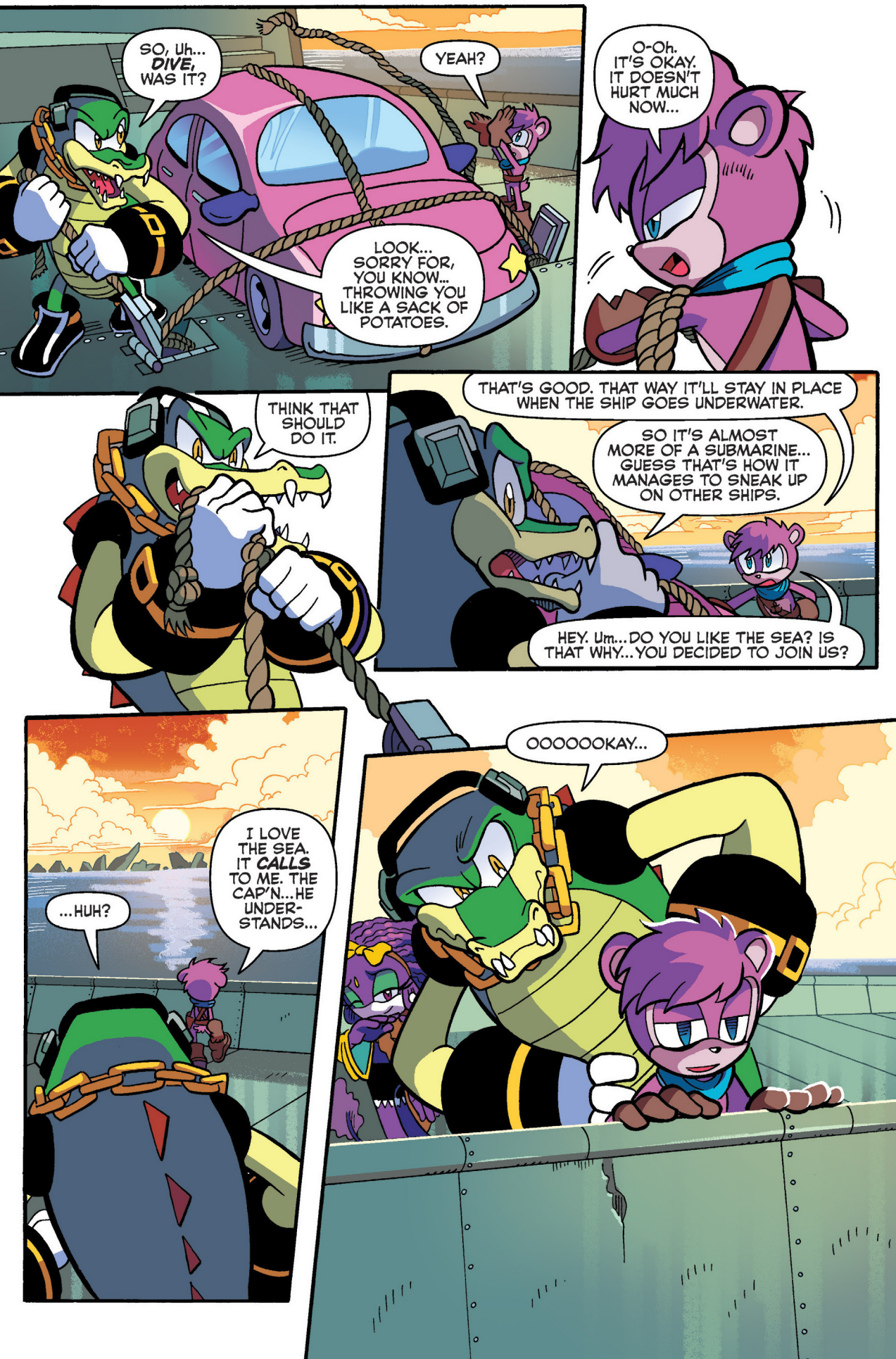
LISTEN UP, LADS 'N' LASSES! OUR COURSE IS SET. WE'LL BE ARRIVIN' ON THE MORN.

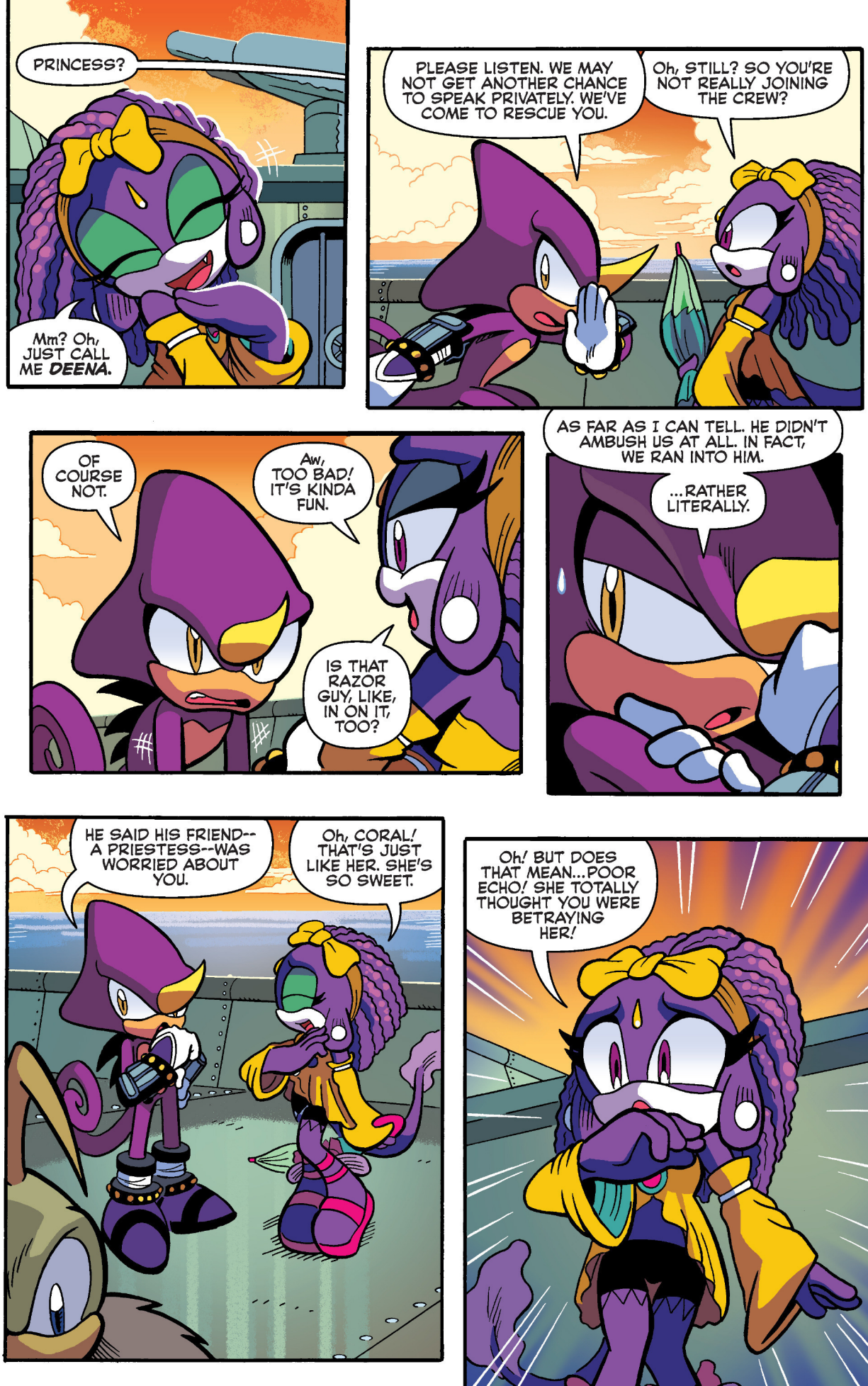

MR. VECTOR, SINCE YOU GAVE DIVE'S POOR SKULL A GOOD RATTLE, YOU GO HELP HIM SECURE THAT VEHICLE OF YOURS TO THE DECK.
WHO'S ON SUPPER TONIGHT?


YO.
I'LL HELP! I'M REALLY GOOD AT POURING CEREAL.

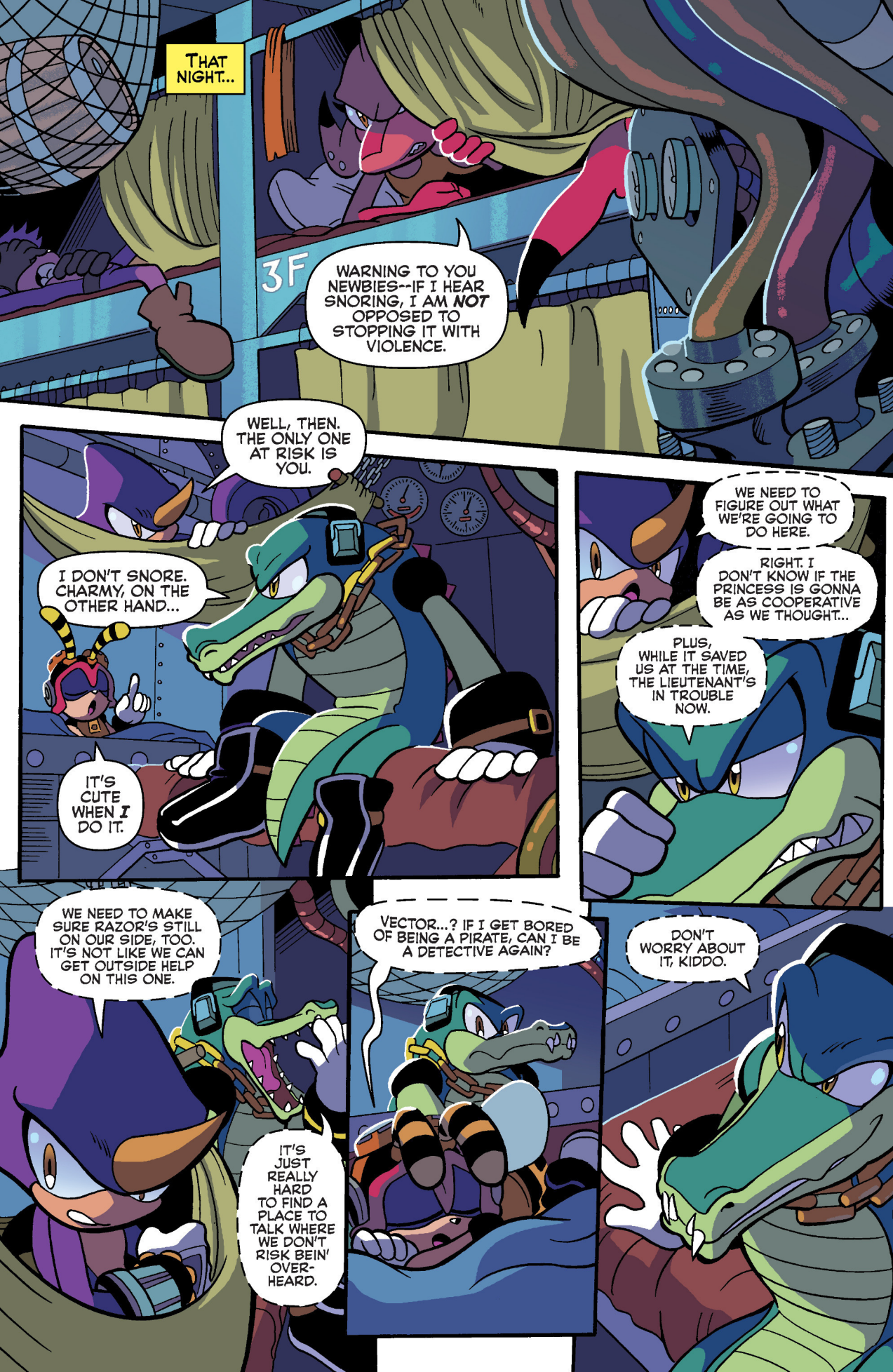
CEREAL WITH RAISINS IN IT IS GARBAGE.
BLECH! I KNOW!
LET'S GO HAVE US A ROUND O' CARDS! IT'LL BE LIKE OLD TIMES!
YOU MEAN I'LL WIN?

GOOD WORK READIN' THOSE SEA CHARTS, MISS DEENA. WE'D BE OTTERLY LOST WIT'OUT YOU.
SEE YOU AT SUPPER.


SO, Uh... DIVE, WAS IT?
YEAH?
LOOK... SORRY FOR, YOU KNOW... THROWING YOU LIKE A SACK OF POTATOES.
O-Oh. IT'S OKAY. IT DOESN'T HURT MUCH NOW...
THINK THAT SHOULD DO IT.
THAT'S GOOD. THAT WAY IT'LL STAY IN PLACE WHEN THE SHIP GOES UNDERWATER.
SO IT'S ALMOST MORE OF A SUBMARINE... GUESS THAT'S HOW IT MANAGES TO SNEAK UP ON OTHER SHIPS.
HEY. Um... DO YOU LIKE THE SEA? IS THAT WHY... YOU DECIDED TO JOIN US?
...HUH?
I LOVE THE SEA. IT CALLS TO ME. THE CAP'N... HE UNDER-STANDS...
OOOOOOKAY...


PRINCESS?
Mm? Oh, JUST CALL ME DEENA.
PLEASE LISTEN. WE MAY NOT GET ANOTHER CHANCE TO SPEAK PRIVATELY. WE'VE COME TO RESCUE YOU.
Oh, STILL? SO YOU'RE NOT REALLY JOINING THE CREW?
OF COURSE NOT.
Aw, TOO BAD! IT'S KINDA FUN.
IS THAT RAZOR GUY, LIKE, IN ON IT, TOO?
AS FAR AS I CAN TELL. HE DIDN'T AMBUSH US AT ALL. IN FACT, WE RAN INTO HIM.
...RATHER LITERALLY.
HE SAID HIS FRIEND--A PRIESTESS--WAS WORRIED ABOUT YOU.
Oh, CORAL! THAT'S JUST LIKE HER. SHE'S SO SWEET.
Oh! BUT DOES THAT MEAN...POOR ECHO! SHE TOTALLY THOUGHT YOU WERE BETRAYING HER!

YEAH, I KNOW.
THAT'S LIKE, SO MEAN!
I *KNOW.*
I'LL FIND A CHANCE TO SPEAK WITH HER. WE DON'T HAVE A PLAN YET, BUT WE *WILL* GET YOU BOTH OUT OF HERE.
THAT'S, LIKE, NICE OF YOU? BUT IT'S NOT SO BAD, YOU KNOW? ALL I'M DOING IS TRANSLATING THOSE SEA CHARTS. NO ONE'S GETTING HURT! OPAL EVEN GAVE BACK ALL THE JEWELRY SHE TOOK FROM ME!
PRINCESS--
DEENA.
THEY'RE *USING* YOU. THE ONLY REASON THEY AREN'T STILL ROBBING AND KIDNAPPING IS BECAUSE YOU'VE SET THEM ON THESE TREASURE HUNTS!
REALLY? WHAT A LUCKY *COINCIDENCE*, THEN. OOH! AND I GET TO SEE THE WORLD FOR FREE! LIKE, HOW ABOUT THAT?
DING DING DING
YAY!! TIME FOR DINNER!


THAT NIGHT...
3F
WARNING TO YOU NEWBIES--IF I HEAR SNORING, I AM *NOT* OPPOSED TO STOPPING IT WITH VIOLENCE.
WELL, THEN. THE ONLY ONE AT RISK IS YOU.
I DON'T SNORE. CHARMY, ON THE OTHER HAND...
IT'S CUTE WHEN *I* DO IT.
WE NEED TO FIGURE OUT WHAT WE'RE GOING TO DO HERE.
RIGHT. I DON'T KNOW IF THE PRINCESS IS GONNA BE AS COOPERATIVE AS WE THOUGHT...
PLUS, WHILE IT SAVED US AT THE TIME, THE LIEUTENANT'S IN TROUBLE NOW.
WE NEED TO MAKE SURE RAZOR'S STILL ON OUR SIDE, TOO. IT'S NOT LIKE WE CAN GET OUTSIDE HELP ON THIS ONE.
IT'S JUST REALLY HARD TO FIND A PLACE TO TALK WHERE WE DON'T RISK BEIN' OVER-HEARD.
VECTOR...? IF I GET BORED OF BEING A PIRATE, CAN I BE A DETECTIVE AGAIN?
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT, KIDDO.

WE'LL REACH THE ISLAND TOMORROW...
"...I'M SURE I'LL THINK OF SOMETHING BY THEN."
THANKS TO SOME QUICK THINKING, THE CHAOTIX GOT OUT OF SOME HOT WATER! OR DID THEY JUST JUMP OFF THE DEEP END? THE PIRACY ANTICS CONTINUE NEXT TIME! UNTIL THEN, DON'T MISS OUT ON ALL THE FUN IN SONIC THE HEDGEHOG, SONIC SUPER DIGEST AND THE GRAPHIC NOVEL LIBRARY!

Letter from the EDITOR

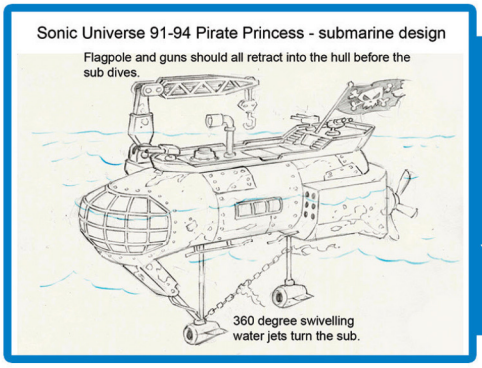
Otter this world editorial commentary, now with 10% more puns!

LET'S DIVE RIGHT IN!

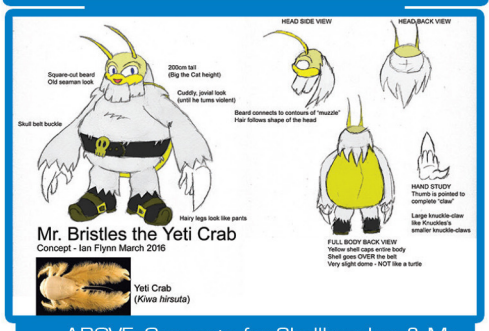
Ahoy, me mateys! Writer Ian Flynn is always dreaming up new places and characters for the Sonic crew to interact with. This issue introduces the pirates of the Setting Dawn! We hope you dig 'em and we'll see you next month for more great concepts!

Fair winds, buckos! **– Vincent "Vin" Lovallo** Editor

CAPTAIN SHELLBREAKER
OTTER
-"WHISKERS" OUT FRONT (NOT CHEEK-TUFTS)
-DIAMOND-SHAPED NOSE
-LONGISH TORSO, SHORTER LEGS..?
-COATTAILS UNDER THE BELT
-CAN COME OFF AS SUAVE AND CHARISMATIC; SECRETLY RUTHLESS (HENCE "COLD" COLORS)


Sonic Universe 91-94 Pirate Princess - submarine design
Flagpole and guns should all retract into the hull before the sub dives.
360 degree swivelling water jets turn the sub.

LEFT: It's the pirate's ship, the Setting Dawn! With some guidance from Ian, artist Tracy Yardley made everything ship-shape!


HEAD SIDE VIEW
HEAD BACK VIEW
Square-cut beard
Old seaman look
200cm tall
(Big the Cat height)
Cuddly, jovial look
(until he turns violent)
Skull belt buckle
Beard connects to contours of "muzzle"
Hair follows shape of the head
Hairy legs look like pants
HAND STUDY
Thumb is pointed to complete "claw"
Large knuckle-claw like Knuckles's smaller knuckle-claws
Mr. Bristles the Yeti Crab
Concept - Ian Flynn March 2016
FULL BODY BACK VIEW
Yellow shell caps entire body
Shell goes OVER the belt
Very slight dome - NOT like a turtle
Yeti Crab
(Kiwa hirsuta)

ABOVE: Concepts for Shellbreaker & Mr. Bristles by writers Aleah Baker & Ian Flynn.

MY SONIC UNIVERSE™ FAN ART

Avery C. sent to Sonic@ArchieComics.com

Grayson B.
from Alabama

Roman H.
from Louisiana

Chelsea N.
from Arizona

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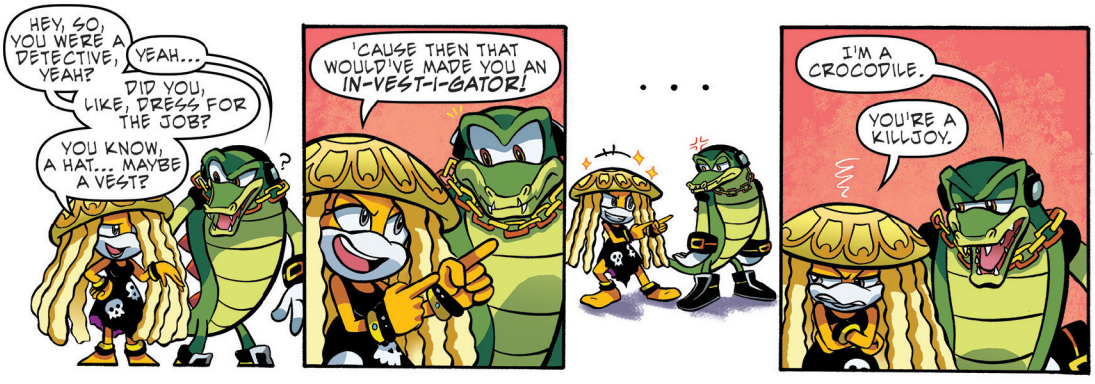
OFF PANEL

NOT VERY PUNNY OR DON'T VEX VECTOR


HEY, SO, YOU WERE A DETECTIVE, YEAH?
YEAH...
DID YOU, LIKE, DRESS FOR THE JOB?
YOU KNOW, A HAT... MAYBE A VEST?
?
'CAUSE THEN THAT WOULD'VE MADE YOU AN IN-VEST-I-GATOR!
. . .
I'M A CROCODILE.
YOU'RE A KILLJOY.

SCRIPT: *ALEAH BAKER* PENCILS: *JENNIFER HERNANDEZ* INKS: *PATRICK WOODRUFF* COLORS: *ELAINA UNGER*

NEXT ISSUE: SONIC UNIVERSE 93

PART THREE OF FOUR